

• FOREWORD

Thank you for your interest in this County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The projects listed here represent the highest priority of capital investments we can make over the next five years.

The long-term goal of our TIP is to continue to build a sustainable transportation network that keeps pace with growth in the region and supports the quality of life and economic vitality of the community. In the coming year the County Board of Supervisors will play a notably influential role in developing a new Long Range Regional Transportation Plan. That Plan will be the basis for extending the half-cent sales tax which voters first approved in 1985 to help build the regional freeway system. What our long-range transportation future will look like, how it will be operated, and who will be held accountable for its accomplishments is very important to us.

We have been very successful in implementing our TIP and now is a good time to be putting projects out to bid. As stewards of the Highway Users Revenue Fund one of MCDOT's short-term objectives is to optimize its investments. MCDOT has taken advantage of partnerships with the cities and towns in the county to share the costs for the majority of the capital projects listed in the TIP. Last year some of our projects came in 30% below the engineer's estimate. Contractors need the work and their bids reflect a very competitive pricing environment. This means a better value for the taxpayer's dollar.

Your Maricopa County Department of Transportation, by virtue of the recommendations from its Transportation Advisory Board and decisions by the Board of Supervisors, continues to earn credibility by providing the right Transportation system, at the right time, and right cost for the people of Maricopa County.

Thomas R. Buick

Thomas R Buick, P.E
Transportation Director and County Engineer



For more information about the TIP, visit our website at <http://www.mcdot.maricopa.gov> or send inquires to Christopher Plumb, Programming Manager at:

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• INTRODUCTION

The Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) annually addresses the transportation needs of the County by adopting an ongoing five-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for fiscal years 2004 through 2008. This program is an integral part of planning, development and decision making within the MCDOT. The TIP implements the recommendations of the County's Comprehensive Plan, Transportation System Plan, small area plans, corridor studies, candidate assessment reports, and transportation management systems. These plans and studies recommend projects based on objective analytical data that support the growing transportation needs of the community

The type of projects recommended include:

- Designs and studies.
- Transportation improvements to roadways and bridges.
- Acquisition of right-of-way.
- Dust mitigation projects.
- Development of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).
- Implementing numerous multimodal studies, including MCDOT's Bicycle Plan.

TIP project selection, prioritization, approval, and implementation are based on MCDOT's commitment to providing a quality transportation system for all County residents. Through various internal strategies and driven by community input, the TIP process occurs each year. A multidivisional MCDOT review group generates preliminary rankings for all county projects. The highest rated and most beneficial projects are subsequently recommended to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) for consideration and public review. Following public review, TAB makes its recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for final action. Approval by the Board of Supervisors ensures a project's inclusion into the County budget and the TIP.

All MCDOT TIP projects are driven by three guiding components: The Transportation System Plan (TSP), the Comprehensive Plan, and the Strategic Plan. The TSP is the implementation component for the transportation element of the Maricopa County Comprehensive Plan. It designates a strategic direction and sets forth a vision for planning and construction of the transportation facilities within the County through 2020.

The Maricopa County Comprehensive Plan, "Eye To The Future", emphasizes public involvement including comments, ideas and directions. It addresses the long and short-term transportation issues in relation to our growing community. The plan is multi-modal and encompasses highways, streets, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian services and facilities. It serves as a standard for accomplishing the County's goals, objectives, and policies.

The Strategic and Operational Plan integrates planning, budgeting, and performance measurements. It focuses on the alignment of people, resources, and systems within MCDOT. It provides MCDOT with the right information to make good decisions. It also aligns every MCDOT employee to organizational



success and it provides the information needed to tell customers what they are getting for their investment (taxes).

Why is the TIP important? It answers the fundamental questions:

Is it the right road?
Is it the right time?
Is it at the right cost?

Addressing these questions ensures that MCDOT maximizes the taxpayer's dollars by providing the most needed and cost effective projects for safe, efficient travel throughout Maricopa County, now and into the future.



*MCDOT strives to maintain the beauty and quality of our County roads ,
while providing the safest Transportation System for our citizens.*



MCDOT Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan



In 2003 MCDOT continues to use its countywide strategic and operational planning process referred to as Managing for Results (MFR). MFR established a foundation on which the County built a highly integrated management system focused on results. This strategic Plan continues to focus on the near future, typically a two to five year horizon, and directly links system and performance with the Department's budget.

MCDOT Mission:

Provide a quality transportation system to the travelers in Maricopa County so they can experience a safe, efficient, and cost effective journey.

MCDOT Vision:

Set a standard of excellence regionally enabling us to consistently deliver on our commitment to provide the right transportation system for Maricopa County at the right time and the right cost.

MCDOT Values:

Respect our customers and MCDOT employees by demonstrating credibility, integrity, and innovation.

MCDOT Strategic Plan

- By 2003, MCDOT will align strategies and structures towards the development of a regional transportation district that will be responsible and accountable for the development and operation of a regional transportation system, which is integrated with land use and the environment.
- By 2005, MCDOT will reduce the accident rate on county-maintained roadways by 5%, reduce travel delays by 5% and improve operational effectiveness through the application of appropriate traffic management solutions, which include regional coordination, and the deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies.
- MCDOT will increase positive community perception and awareness of services and opportunities for public participation in decision-making processes to achieve a 2% increase in customer satisfaction and institutional recognition each year for the next five years as measured by Customer Satisfaction and targeted project stakeholders surveys.
- MCDOT will reduce the FY 2001 documented backlog of transportation projects by 10% every year for the next five years through innovative operational and financial strategies.



- By 2003, MCDOT will attract and retain qualified, diverse and adequately compensated employees by ensuring the overall Employee Satisfaction Survey Score is above 5.5.

As we progress forward we now face new challenges. Maricopa County has grown by almost a million people since 1990 with no noticeable slowdown. The volume of travel on our roadways is also steadily increasing. These dynamic forces make it imperative but very difficult for our transportation systems to keep pace with the demand. However, with the support from the County Board of Supervisors, the Transportation Advisory Board and the citizens of Maricopa County, MCDOT will continue to support and maintain the transportation needs of its residents

The current TIP Book is a snapshot into our probable transportation future. It explains what we've accomplished in the last year and outlines what we plan to do in the next five years. Priorities will undoubtedly change but our vision will remain the same, our commitment to a safer, more efficient transportation system.



MCDOT staff works closely to ensure that our mission, visions, and goals are being met.

